

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): An amorphous fine silica particle made by flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median diameter) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm , a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , and a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to 40% as shown in the following formula [I],

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [I]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A filler of an epoxy molding compound, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A filler for anti-blocking of a plastic film or sheet, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): An external additive for a toner, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer or an electric charge transportation layer of a photo conductor of an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An amorphous fine silica particle made by a flame hydrolysis of a silicon compound, wherein said silica particle has an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm , a specific surface area by BET of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% ~~31.9%~~ to 40% as shown in the following formula [I], and an absolute value of triboelectrostatic charge to the specific surface area by BET is more than 20 $\mu\text{C}/\text{m}^2$

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [\text{I}]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated with a silane coupling agent, an organo-polysiloxane or a combination thereof.

Claim 8 (Original): The amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6, wherein said silica particle is surface-treated by a dry method.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A development agent for an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A surface protection layer material of a photo conductor, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A material of an electric charge transportation layer, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 6.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A process for producing an amorphous fine silica particle, said process comprising

leading a gaseous silicon compound into a flame to be hydrolyzed to form said particle,

maintaining said silica particle for a time at a temperature greater than the melting point of silica, and

forming said amorphous fine silica particle having an average particle diameter (median size) of from 0.1 to 0.7 μm and a specific surface area of from 5 to 30 m^2/g , a dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to 40% as shown in the following formula [I],

$$z = (Y/2X) \times 100\% \quad [I]$$

wherein X is a median size, Y is a particle size range which is from 10% to 90% of an accumulative particle size;

wherein a flame temperature is greater than the melting point of silica and a silica concentration in the flame (v) is more than $0.25\text{kg}/\text{Nm}^3$.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the silica concentration in the flame (v) is from 0.25 to $1.0\text{kg}/\text{Nm}^3$.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein a residence time (t) in the flame of the silica particle is from 0.02 to 0.30 seconds.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, further comprising,

controlling a specific surface area (S), a median size (r), a silica concentration in the flame (v), and a staying time in the flame (t), according to the following formula [II] or [III], respectively.

$$S = 3.52 (v \cdot t)^{-0.4} \quad \text{[II]}$$

$$r = 1.07 (v \cdot t)^{0.4} \quad \text{[III]}$$

Claim 16 (New): A filler of an epoxy molding compound, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1 wherein the dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to about 35%.

Claim 17 (New): A filler for anti-blocking of a plastic film or sheet, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1 wherein the dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to about 35%.

Claim 18 (New): An external additive for a toner, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1 wherein the dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to about 35%.

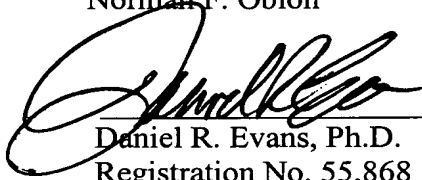
Claim 19 (New): A surface protection layer or an electric charge transportation layer of a photo conductor of an electronic photograph, comprising the amorphous fine silica particle according to Claim 1 wherein the dispersion coefficient (z) ranges from about 31% to about 35%.

DISCUSSION OF AMENDMENT AND REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. Claim 6 is amended. Claims 16-19 are added. Support for the amendment to Claim 6 and new Claims 16-19 is found on page 21, last paragraph. No new matter is believed to be added. Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-19 will be active and in a condition for allowance. Should the Examiner deem that a personal or telephonic interview would be helpful in advancing this application toward allowance, she is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon


Daniel R. Evans, Ph.D.
Registration No. 55,868

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)